

IV-E of the Social Security Act. Additionally, states receive funding for administrative training and data collection to support this program. Unfortunately, because of a legislative oversight, many Native American children who are placed in foster care by tribal courts do not receive foster care and adoptive services to which all other income-eligible children are entitled.

Not only are otherwise eligible Native children denied foster care maintenance payments, but this inequity also extends to children who are adopted through tribal placements. Currently, the IV-E program offers limited assistance for expenses associated with adoption and the training of professional staff and parents involved in the adoption. These circumstances, sadly, have meant that many Indian children receive little Federal support in attaining the permanency they need and deserve.

In many instances, these children face insurmountable odds. Many come from abusive homes. Foster parents who open their doors to care for these special children deserve our help. These generous people who take these children into their homes should not have sleepless nights worrying about whether they have the resources to provide nourishing food or a warm coat, or even adequate shelter for these children. This legislation will go a long way to ease their concerns.

Currently, some tribes and states have entered into IV-E agreements, but these arrangements are the exception. They also, by and large, do not include funds to train tribal social workers and foster and adoptive parents. This bill would make it clear that tribes would be treated like States when they run their own programs under the IV-E program. The bill would make funding fair and equitable for all children, Native and non-Native.

This companion legislation to S. 550 would do the following: extend the Title IV-E entitlement programs to tribal placements in foster and adoptive homes; authorize tribal governments to receive direct funding from the Department of Health and Human Services for administration of IV-E programs (tribes must have HHS-approved programs); allow the Secretary flexibility to modify the requirements of the IV-E law for tribes if those requirements are not in the best interest of Native children; and allow continuation of tribal-State IV-E agreements.

In a 1994 report, HHS found that the best way to serve this underfunded group is to provide direct assistance to tribal governments and qualified tribal families. I want to emphasize that this bill would not result in reduced funding for the States, as they would continue to be reimbursed for their expenses under the law. I strongly believe Congress should address this oversight and provide equitable benefits to Native American children who are under the jurisdiction of their tribal governments, and I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this bipartisan and bicameral proposal.

LEONARD CARLIN HONORED ON
RETIREMENT FROM EDCNP

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2001

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend Leonard Carlin, who is retiring after 28 years with the Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Len will be honored with a retirement dinner on June 27.

Len is a graduate of Coughlin High School and attended Wilkes College, Penn State University and the Scranton branch of Temple University. In addition to his work at EDCNP, his varied and broad experience includes service with the U.S. Geological Survey, the Army Corps of Engineers and the Lackawanna County Regional Planning Commission.

Since joining EDCNP, Len has worked in many capacities, including regional planner and cartographic supervisor and duties including environmental planning and programs, land use planning, comprehensive planning, flood mitigation, assistance to local governments, and other duties too numerous to list here.

He is a member of several community and professional organizations, including the Pennsylvania Planning Association, the Sierra Club, Pennsylvania Environmental Council and Rails-to-Trails. For his dedicated work, he was named the Pennsylvania Planning Association's Planner of the Year in 2000.

Mr. Speaker, I am particularly pleased to call to the attention of the House of Representatives Len's distinguished career because his hard work was very helpful in securing the American Heritage River designation for the Upper Susquehanna-Lackawanna Watershed in 1998. Working closely with my office, Len was an invaluable assistant in compiling a great deal of information and working with local elected officials and other interested parties. I wish him all the best.

HONORING DR. JERRY SASSON,
PRINCIPAL OF TERRACE PARK
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL UPON HIS
RETIREMENT

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2001

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Jerry Sasson, a friend and constituent, who is retiring after 11 years as principal of Terrace Park Elementary School (TPES) in the Second District of Ohio.

Jerry is a special kind of principal because he is a special kind of person. He has been called a one-of-a-kind educator, who spends time in the classroom every day, knows the name and face of every one of his 300 students, writes a personal, handwritten birthday card to each student every year, and sends students notes at home to recognize personal accomplishments. He encourages kindness and respect among students, teachers and parents, and is aware of each student's specific challenges and talents.

An Ohio native, Jerry received his Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership from the

University of Cincinnati in 1992. He graduated with a Master of Education in Guidance and Counseling and a Bachelor of Science in Education from the University of Dayton. Jerry received his school psychology certificate from Xavier University in 1972. Jerry began his career as a high school English teacher at Fenwick High School in Middletown, Ohio, and went on to become Fenwick's Director of Guidance and Counseling. From 1972 through 1979, he served the Hamilton County Office of Educational Services as a school psychologist and, in 1979, he joined the Mariemont, Ohio City School District as Director of Special Services, a position he retained while serving as principal. In 1990, he became the principal of TPES, a school within the Mariemont School District.

Jerry is well known for his regular column on parenting, Parent Pride, which appears in the publication of the Mariemont City School District. He tackles tough subjects such as tolerance, assertiveness, morals and responsibility. He's not afraid to tell us as parents that the best way to raise happy, productive children is to create and maintain home, school and community environments that focus on nurturing and support for all. Jerry believes that most difficult school-related issues—such as bullying, behavior problems, or violence—are not just school issues, but family and community issues, too. And he's right: schools can create zero tolerance policies, but it all comes back to the attitudes and relationships at home.

All of us in the Greater Cincinnati area are grateful for Jerry's many years of dedicated and caring service. We appreciate his outstanding leadership and friendship, and wish him well in many new challenges and opportunities to come.

TRIBUTE TO BERNARD SIMS

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2001

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the most respected citizens in my district, Bernard Sims. Bernard Sims died on June 3rd at the age of 97.

Bernard was well known throughout his hometown of LaGrange, Illinois as a leader, counselor, and teacher. During his ninety-seven years, Bernard fought for equal rights for all citizens. Bernard refused to tolerate discrimination in any form. His promotion of mutual respect has forever made the city of LaGrange a better place.

One of the most respectable traits of Bernard's character was his ability to get things done. He led through action. His friends respectfully recall when Bernard led a sit-in at the Walgreen's lunch counter until the establishment agreed to serve African Americans. His nonviolent approach and his positive attitude shaped the LaGrange civil rights movement. Bernard was wholly diplomatic in his actions and respect for him crosses all racial and ethnic lines.

Bernard was a well-known football and baseball star at Lyons Township High School. He worked as an auto mechanic, a handyman, and a real estate entrepreneur. He was born to the first African American family in LaGrange and Bernard met his wife, Helen, in

1923 at a LaGrange diner. The couple spent a remarkable seventy five years together until his death. Bernard lived his ideals through membership in the Knights of Columbus, Toastmasters, and the NAACP. His active life and positive attitude helped him make a difference everywhere he went.

Bernard was an asset to our community and will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers go out to Bernard's family and the La-Grange community during this time of mourning. I am certain Bernard's legacy will live on in the community for years to come.

His community minded spirit holds a lesson for all of us. I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in remembering Bernard Sims and the contributions he made to his community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2001

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, June 25, I missed three recorded votes because my flight from St. Louis was canceled. Had my flight not been canceled, I would have voted 'as follows on these three Resolutions:

"Yea" on H. Res. 160, calling on Communist China to release Li Shaomin and all other American scholars of Chinese ancestry;

"Yea" on H. Res. 99, expressing the sense of the House that Lebanon, Syria and Iran should call upon the Hezbollah to allow Red Cross representatives to visit four abducted Israelis presently held by Hezbollah forces in Lebanon; and

"Yea" on H. Con. Res. 161, honoring the 19 U.S. servicemen who died in the terrorist bombing of Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia on June 25, 1996.

HIGH-SPEED RAIL INVESTMENT ACT OF 2001

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2001

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my friend, Mr. OBERSTAR, and 123 of our colleagues, in introducing the bipartisan "High-Speed Rail Investment Act of 2001." We believe this bill is critical to getting high-speed rail projects started across the country and liberating our Nation's highways and airways from increasingly serious congestion. This legislation, a companion to S. 250 in the other body, is designed to put into place a federal program to support States in the development of high-speed rail. The House passed a similar bill in the 106th Congress.

Congestion on our highways and in our skies is at a crisis point. The cost to our nation in terms of lost productivity and wasted fuel could be as high as \$ 100 billion a year. This will only get worse as road and air travel continue to increase. We cannot resolve this problem simply by building new roads and new airports, the costs are enormous and in many places we simply do not have the space. Our rail system has fallen far below the standards of systems in most other developed industrial

countries. We have scarce fiscal and land resources and we must make more efficient use of our existing infrastructure. The rail lines are there already.

Our bill would build on the current rail infrastructure. The bill would authorize Amtrak to issue \$12 billion in bonds over the next 10 years for high-speed rail projects in up to 12 regional corridors identified by the Department of Transportation. The bond proceeds could be invested in high-speed rail rights-of-way, rolling stock and other capital improvements. Bonds could also be issued by Amtrak on behalf of any other qualified intercity passenger rail carrier with the approval of the Secretary of Transportation. The bondholders would receive federal tax credits in lieu of interest payments and the credits would be included in taxable income. States would provide at least a 20 percent match which would be deposited in a trust account to redeem the bonds, but Amtrak would remain ultimately responsible for repaying the principal. The state match would help ensure that only high priority projects are funded.

The bill provides that not more than \$1.2 billion in bonds could be issued in each fiscal year from 2002 to 2011. Also, not more than \$3 billion could be designated for qualified projects on the northeast rail corridor between Washington, DC and Boston, Massachusetts. In addition, not more than \$3 billion could be designated for any individual state for qualified projects.

We believe this proposed legislation is forward looking, cost-effective, and absolutely necessary if we are to ensure that our nation's transportation system can handle the expected growth in travel without being overwhelmed by congestion and gridlock. We encourage our colleagues to join us in cosponsoring this legislation.

COMMENDING LOUNSBERRY HOLLOW MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2001

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, each and every day Americans are exposed to a deluge of negative images of our younger citizens. Television, radio and newspaper reports are replete with stories of the misdeeds of young Americans. Frankly, coverage of ringing alarm bells and scandal sells.

However, this kind of coverage does not tell the entire story. Nor is it fair to the millions of younger Americans who are doing good, helping their friends and neighbors and volunteering to improve their communities.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I rise this today to draw the attention of my Colleagues to the efforts of just one group of young people—the students at the Lounsberry Hollow Middle School. This weekend I was pleased and gratified to participate as the Vernon Township Fireman's Association honored this group of community-minded, energetic youngsters. Under the guidance of the Director of the School's "enrichment program", their outstanding teacher, Vernoy Paolini, the students at Lounsberry Hollow Middle School worked for over 2½ years to raise \$36,000 to help fire fighters do their lifesaving work.

These students in Vernon Township have set a record and a high standard for all of us to recognize.

Nearly three years ago, the students became interested in an emerging firefighting technology—thermal imaging cameras. The students embarked on an effort to raise the funds to provide Vernon's firefighters with these cameras. They organized a range of creative activities. They sponsored Tupperware Bingo, sold pens and pencils, sponsored games, collected cans, gathered food, sold 15,000 lollipops, established the "Change Makes a Difference" program, etc. With this dedication and commitment, they raised over \$36,000.

In the meantime, State Senator Bob Littell (R-Franklin) stepped in and through his leadership on the Senate Appropriations Committee, provided communities all across the state assistance to purchase the thermal cameras.

Undaunted, the young people rededicated themselves to helping reduce fire dangers. They changed their focus and purchased a "Safety House Trailer" for the various area fire departments to use in their fire prevention and training activities.

Clearly, these students had help—assistance from their teachers, community leaders, elected officials, and parents. All of them deserve our heartfelt thanks for their role in this project.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend and congratulate Lounsberry Middle School, its faculty and staff. But I also rise to offer, on behalf of the Sussex County community, my heartfelt thanks to its students. They are great Americans and their actions typify the kind of community dedication that has made America strong.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FAIR BALANCE PRESCRIPTION DRUG ADVERTISEMENT ACT OF 2001

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2001

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Fair Balance Prescription Drug Advertisement Act, a bill to deny tax deductions for unbalanced direct to consumer (DTC) pharmaceutical advertising placing more emphasis on product benefits rather than risks or failing to meet Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act Requirements.

The bill will ensure that DTC advertisements are presented in a fair manner, balancing risks and consequences. Print ads would be required to display pros and cons in equal typeface and space, and on the same or facing pages. If the advertisements ran onto additional pages, those pages would have to be consecutive with the first pages. In television and radio ads, risk and benefit descriptions would be allotted equal airtime and volume level. Pharmaceutical companies who do not follow these guidelines will not be eligible for an advertising tax deduction.

Since the FDA relaxed restrictions on television advertising in 1997, DTC advertising has soared. Drug companies' advertising expenditure doubled between 1998 and 2000.